committed against the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes during the last three years was as under:—

Year	Incidence of Crime Against	
	SCs	STs
1997	27,944	4,644
1998	25,638	4,276
1999*	25,191	4,497

'"'(Provisional)

State-wise details in this regard are enclosed in the Annexure *[See* Appendix 189, Annexure No. 129.]

I 'Public Order' and 'Pohjce' are State subjects as per the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India and, as such, registration, investigation, detection and prevention of crimes is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. However, the Government of India has been advising the State Governments, from time to rime, to give more focussed attention to improving the administration of criminal justice system and take such measures as are necessary for the prevention of crimes against the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other vulnerable sections of the society.

Foreign postings/assignments

*731. SHRI RAJU PARMAR: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether- the Forum c f SC/ST MPs in the representations submitted to the Prime Minister on 17th December, 1996, J^st September, 1997 and 23rd July, 1998, have demanded posting of persons from SCs and STs category in foreign assignments under UNO, its affiliated Organizations in India and abroad; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon furnishing the total number of persons from the Ministry of Rural Development send abroad on foreign postings/ assignments during the last five years and number of persons belonging to SCs and STs among them and their percentage as compared to total of such assignments?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUNDER LAL PATWA): (a) Three Memoranda were submitted to the Prime Minister on 17.12.96, 1.9.97 and 23.7.98 by the Parliamentary Forum for SC and ST

(b) In so far as the Ministry of Rural Development is concerned, while no officer was sent on foreign posting/ foreign assignment during the last five years, the services of three officers were sent, on request, to Inter-Governmental/Inrernational Organisations. None of the three officers belongs to SCs/STs.

Regulation of Traffic on Delhi Roads

*732. SHRl RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD. Will the Minister of HOME-AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to review provisions contained in Regulation 30(1) jf Delhi Control of Vehicular and other Traffic on Roads and Streets Regulations, 1980; anti

(b) if so, as to why Traffic Police hi > not considered desirable to ban heavy traffic going inside the residential colony of Shalimar Bagh adjacent to roads of AD/AC/AB/BK Blocks in day and night and divert them through Ring Road since the actual space between the roads is less than 7 meters as l/3rd of the road is occupied by parking vehicles and pedestrain path is encroched/ allotted by MGD under Tehbajari?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) No, Sir. (b) Delhi Police have, in exercise of the powers conferred under Regulation 30(1) of Delhi Control of Vehicular and other Traffic on Roads and Streets Regulations, 1980 prohibited the movement of heavy goods vehicles from 7.30 A.M. to 9.30 PM on internal roads of less than 7 meters width in the residential areas of Delhi. However, the road adjacent to AD/AC/AB/BK Blocks In Shalimar Bagh being 25 meters wide does not fall within the purview of the ;aid prohibitoiy drder. It is otherwise also not advisable to restrict movement of heavy goods vehicles on this road as it serves as the main link between Kela Godown and Ring Road for supply of essential goods to West and South Districts f Delhi.

Financial Crunch in Power Sector

*733. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will ihe Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to.the news-item captioned "Budget support to power units down" as reported in the 'Business Standard' dated 3rd March, 2000;

(b) whether the budget support given to public sector undertakings in th* power sector has gone down by nearly Rs. 230 crores;